

Overseas Press Club Bulletin

VOL. 42, NO. 1
FEBRUARY 1987

52 East 41 Street
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Up-and-Coming

Tuesday, February 17, 5:30 p.m.—David Schoenbrun, renowned broadcast newsman, author, now INN commentator, on "What's Wrong with TV?" Bogert Room.

Tuesday, March 24, 5:30 p.m.—Mortimer B. Zuckerman, chairman and editor-in-chief, U.S. News and World Report, on his news magazine and Daniloff affair. Bogert Room.

Wednesday, April 22, 6 p.m.—OPC Annual Awards Dinner. Art Buchwald speaks. Grand Hyatt Hotel. Details to be announced.

Members Free, Guests \$5, Cash bar, all functions except awards dinner. Reservations required. Reserve with Mary Novick 679-9650.

OPC Awards biggest; Entries, prizes grow

While the number of entries for this year's OPC Awards has yet to be tallied it is expected to exceed last year's record 502.

Contest Chairman **Morton Frank** advises the cash prizes this year will also set a record, increasing to a total \$8,500. Recipients will receive their certificate, medal or plaque at the annual awards dinner, April 22 at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in New York.

Nine men and women experienced in newspaper and magazine reporting and interpretation, radio and television broadcasting, photography, cartooning and book publishing will serve as judges of the 14 categories of entries. All OPC members, they are **Henry Cassidy, Charles Rotkin, David Anderson, David Shefrin, H.L. Stevenson, John Prescott, H. Lee Silberman, Grace Shaw** and **Julia Edwards**.

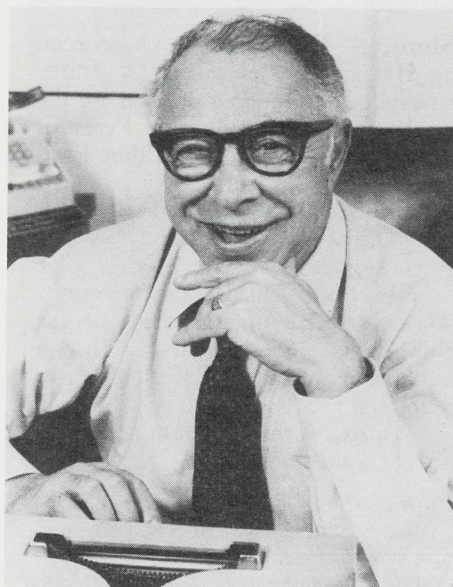
With last year's contest entries numbering a new all-time high of 502, it's expected that this year's will attract even more.

OPC Awards Dinner

Art Buchwald headlines evening Award for Intl. Herald Tribune

Art Buchwald will be the speaker at the Overseas Press Club's Annual Awards Dinner to be held at the Grand Hyatt Hotel on Wednesday, April 22.

Announcement was made by **Anita Diamant** and **Henry Gellermann**, co-chairpersons of the Club's major annual event. The theme of the dinner will be the honoring of the free speech and free press guarantees of the U.S. Constitution in the year of its Bicentennial celebration.



Art Buchwald

Szulc tells OPCers of Fidel, Cuba today

Writing a biography of Fidel Castro was one of the most "extraordinary experiences" of his career, veteran journalist **Tad Szulc** told a large audience of Club members and guests at an evening author session Jan. 20.

Szulc, a former New York Times correspondent now based in Washington, D.C., came up from the capital to address the OPC on his "critical biography" *Fidel*, published by William Morrow. The book was the outgrowth of an assignment by *Parade* editor Walter Anderson to write a profile of the Cuban revolutionary leader for that magazine.

"I'm delighted that Art has agreed to be our speaker," said OPC President **Herb Kupferberg**. "He's the greatest American satirist of the 20th century, and no one better exemplifies the value of free comment in puncturing political folly and pretension."

Buchwald's appearance, his first before the Club, will highlight a dinner at which awards will be presented by the OPC for outstanding achievements in various categories of broadcast print and photographic journalism. The President's Award, presented in the past for unusual service to the cause of free journalism, will be conferred for the first time upon a publication, the *International Herald Tribune*, published in Paris, which this year is celebrating its 100th anniversary.

Leaders in the fields of journalism and industry are expected to turn out, along with OPC members, for what is expected to be one of the outstanding events in the Club's history. *Dateline* magazine, published by *Parade* and edited by OPCer **Larry Smith**, will be distributed to all who attend. Among this year's contributors will be President Reagan and Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

Further details about the dinner will be announced later.

Henry Gellermann reports the OPC Foundation has provided a \$500 grant to The Committee to Protect Journalists to aid the Chilean Journalists Association in its struggle against human rights violations in that country.

Diamond's jottings on world journeys

Editor's note: When Walter Diamond, who heads Overseas Press and Consultants and works for the U.N. and U.S. AID, suggested members might contribute reports on their recent journeys abroad, we suggested he kick it off and along came the following report. Let's hear from other members. But keep it tight. And Walter, thank you.

By WALTER H. DIAMOND

At the moment, the **Seychelles**, reputed to be the authentic home of the biblical Garden of Eden, appears quiet after a few abortive political coups led by former ousted opposition leaders using South Africa as their launching pad. At present foreign companies establishing base operations in this far-flung tax haven are more concerned with postal deficiencies than political takeovers.

Kenya leads one to believe that the whole world is trying to see its natural wonders as millions of tourists seek to relive the romance glamorized in the *Out of Africa* film. Among the few unspoiled spots for viewing wild game are the little publicized Taita Hills and neighboring Salt Lick lodges on their private reserve south of Nairobi. A two-night air package including a morning-lunch stop-over at Amboseli Reserve in the shadow of Mt. Kilimanjaro offers an excellent way to see and photograph wildlife on days off from the job. Huge gains in tourist receipts are offsetting exchange coffers depleted from steady declines in worldwide prices for Kenya's major commodities.

Still suffering from the aftermath of the 1976 earthquakes which devastated much of the Dalmatian coast, **Yugoslavia** is undertaking a major reconstruction program in the Republic of Montenegro. Emphasis is being placed on developing the area around the southern City of Bar, only 20 miles from Communist Albania, by means of a modern export processing zone to attract joint ventures with American capital and a tourist campaign to lure visitors from over-crowded Dubrovnik. New foreign exchange controls have made it difficult to get dollar transfers out of the country and normal delays in receiving remittances average three to four months.

Hungary gives the outward impression

of being less of a Communist economy than many Western European nations in the Allied camp. Fewer men in military uniforms are seen roving the streets than in most of the Socialist-oriented countries of the West. The Hungarian consumer generally is happy and spending freely, choosing from shelves well-stocked with goods rarely seen in the other Iron Curtain nations. The local market, which welcomes retail customers, exhibits an astonishing array of top-quality poultry, meat and game. Most popular site for business conferences and rendezvous for both East and West is the landmark Budapest monastery now rebuilt into a modern Hilton hotel where Russia's Gorbachev recently met some of his Communist Congress partners.

Morocco—Eight miles from Moroccan King Hassan's winter palace at Ifrane, the secluded mountain resort where the King hosted Prime Minister Peres of Israel for key talks on the Middle East, we visited the popular ski area of Michlifen. Here some two dozen challenging trails can be schussed for only \$3 a day, compared with average U.S. daily rates up to \$30. Hassan's attempts to reach a peaceful settlement of the Israeli-occupied Gaza strip with Jordan and the PLO are paying off with promises of increased U.S. aid, much of which will go for improving the Kingdom's port and free trade zone facilities.

Lifting of the barrier, at **Gibraltar** in 1986 has meant a rush of Spanish businessmen to set up worldwide tax haven operations in Gibraltar. Liberal legislation encourages entrepreneurs to take advantage of the Rock for offshore trading, banking, insurance and trust company operations.

Another offshore financial tax sanctuary, the Principality of **Liechtenstein**, has encountered difficulties in luring U.S. venture capital. However, now that the Swiss franc has returned to its previous strength vis-a-vis the American dollar and U.S. interest rates have dropped, the inflow of hard currencies for banking and trust operations has resumed. On the other hand, the favorable reception given by the U.S. to the House of Liechtenstein art exhibit at the Metropolitan Museum has been overshadowed by the revelation that Crown Prince Hans Adam annually receives \$2.2 million in U.S. farm subsidies for the 76,500 acres of farmland in which he has a particular interest.

Szulc—

from Page 1

Szulc, a longtime OPCer, says he pointed out to Castro that no biography existed and that he was a man worth having one. Castro agreed. Szulc described the difficulty of working almost entirely from oral sources, since so little written material—aside from Castro's innumerable speeches—exist.

"After 27 hours of interviewing, you would think some fatigue would set in," he remarked, "but that didn't seem to bother the Cubans!"

Szulc, who spent eight months in Cuba gathering material for the book, said he encountered a "dilemma of intellectuals" which finds many Cubans still "adoring" the revolution but living in fear of repression. Many people are more interested in practical benefits, such as better education, free health care and improved housing, rather than in any abstract Marxist-Leninist theory. Young Cubans especially, he said, have no particular fervor. In answer to a question about what would happen after Castro, he remarked that no one could give a precise answer, but added: "Castro is the glue that holds his whole movement together, but once he's gone the country will be up for grabs."

Szulc was critical of Cuban refugee groups in Florida, saying that he had found some of them imbued with similar totalitarian ideas to the Castroites. "Some refugees just won't admit that Fidel Castro even exists," he said. "Uniformed police had to be assigned to guard places where I spoke in Miami on my book tour. Some of the refugees simply don't understand that the First Amendment applies to the State of Florida. What my wife and I learned above everything else during our eight months in Cuba was how important it is to be able to open up your mouth, talk, and write."

Doris Macauley has received a letter from the office of President Cory Aquino of the Philippines saying she is looking forward to reading her book *Bread and Rice* of her wartime experiences, which Lino Procka, the Filipino director, is considering filming there. **Thurston Macauley**, Doris' husband, whose book *The Constant Companion—An Anthology of Dog Stories* was recently published by Blandford Press in England, has just finished a new one, *Puss In Books—Great Cat Stories*. **Theodore Macauley**, third OPCer of the clan, based in Paris with *L'Express*, has been commuting between France and Boston, Houston, Miami and Los Angeles on special assignments for the news weekly's special sections on the American business centers.

Philip Whitcomb dies

Philip Whitcomb, a foreign correspondent in the classic tradition, died September 11 at his Left Bank home in Paris. He was 94 years old.

Phil was the complete OPCer. He was educated overseas, lived and worked overseas and died overseas, still an active and interested member of the club.

After 64 years as a foreign correspondent, he retired in 1978 from the Christian Science Monitor, aged 87. But that didn't stop him. He went to the University of Kansas as a student and teacher, won his Ph.D. in philosophy and retired again in 1982.

Phil came from an academic family. His parents founded and taught at the Washburn University School of Law in Topeka. He was graduated from Washburn in 1910, and was a Rhodes scholar at Oxford until 1914, when he started his reporting career.

He covered Western Europe for Harper's Weekly, New York Tribune, Associated Press, Baltimore Sun and Christian Science Monitor. He joined the OPC in 1947, proposed by Bob Considine and seconded by Pierre Huss.

His last home was a picturesque apartment at 10 bis rue Servandoni, 75006 Paris, beside the church of Saint Sulpice. He left his wife, son and daughter and a host of adoring grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

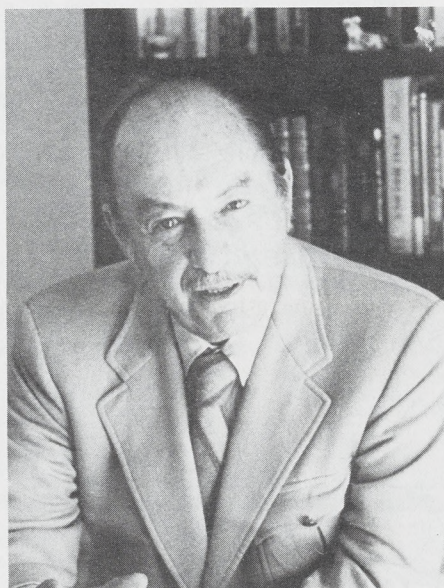
—Henry Cassidy

Peoplers

OPC'er **Al Kaff** reports Cornell University is interested in receiving news files from correspondents who reported from Southeast Asia. The university's Southeast Asia Program includes experts on Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Indonesia, the Philippines, Burma, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Brunei. The Echols Collection in Cornell's Olin Library is ranked as one of the world's most extensive collections of books and documents on Southeast Asia. If you seek a safe repository where your dispatches will be available to scholars for generations, please write to George McT. Kahin, professor of government and Asian studies, 104 McGraw Hall, or Al Kaff, Cornell News Service, Village Green, both in Ithaca, N.Y., 14850. Professor Kahin, author of a definitive history on U.S. involvement in Vietnam, "Intervention" (Knopf 1986), is particularly interested in extensive news files dealing with that country.

OPC speakers:

Schoenbrun on TV News Zuckerman on U.S. News



David Schoenbrun



Mortimer B. Zuckerman

OPC's **George Krinsky** reports Center for Foreign Journalists he heads in Reston, Va., has heavy agenda in '87 first quarter with stateside workshop for 20 Asia/Pacific editors; environmental reporting workshops in three Latin American countries and a science reporting workshop in the U.S. for African journalists. Center last year conducted 23 such seminars, received program participants and visitors from 103 countries.

The much-maligned medium of broadcast journalism will be in the hot seat on February 17 when **David Schoenbrun**, one of its prime pundits, discusses "What's Wrong With TV News?"

Schoenbrun, a respected reporter, news analyst, author, lecturer and educator, is one of the chief pioneers of television reporting. He was one of the first writers and commentators on the *Voice of America* after Pearl Harbor. He was assigned to the invasion of southern France as a combat correspondent, a position he held through the liberation of France and the defeat of Germany. After the war, **Edward R. Murrow** appointed Schoenbrun the Paris correspondent for CBS News. He later left Paris to become Chief Correspondent and Bureau Chief of *CBS News* in Washington during the Kennedy Administration. He still appears regularly as a news analyst on the *Independent News Network* (INN), which is syndicated nationally by *WPIX-TV*, New York. His seventh and latest book, *America Inside-Out*, the story of America at home and abroad from Presidents Franklin D. Roosevelt to Reagan, was published by McGraw-Hill.

And March 24, **Mortimer B. Zuckerman**, the chairman and co-founder of Boston Properties who today is making—and reporting—news in his more recently acquired position as chairman and editor-in-chief of *U.S. News and World Report*, speaks to the club.

Jerome Zukosky advises he's been named deputy chief of correspondents of Business Week working with magazine's 75 fulltime correspondents in 27 bureaus in U.S. and abroad.

OPC'er **Edward L. Bernays**, 95, dean of modern PR, sends along copy of his new book *The Later Years—Public Relations Insights 1956-1986* in last graph of which he says "...momentum of public opinion will go on to bring about the licensing and registration (of PR people) which I had envisioned in my book *Crystallizing Public Opinion* in 1923." At time of writing, Bernays said then PRSA President Anthony Franco was going to set up a committee on licensing for higher PR standards. Not sure he got a chance.

Who's doing what, when, where and if there's space, why

By RALPH GARDNER

Growth of Washington press corps is confirmed by **Howard Penn Hudson** in his just out 20th edition of Hudson's Washington Directory which lists 3,735 news outlets, 3,937 correspondents and editors, more than double the 1968 listings.

Aaron Einfran advises he's ended assignment in Islamabad, Pakistan, where he headed Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty bureau since 1984. Einfran has returned to RFE/RL's Munich headquarters as news desk editor.

OPC Manager **Mary Novick**, **Lili Lee**, our bookkeeper, and **Tony Muraco**, whom Lili replaced when he retired last fall, express their thanks for members' generosity at Christmas time and also the appreciation of the Chemists' Club staff who share in members' contributions.

OPC's fabled Overseas Yacht Club was represented at the America's Cup down under in the person of **George McGann**, former New York bureau chief of Australian Consolidated Press. It's his 25th year of Cup coverage. He started with the first Australian challenge in '62. George won't stay down under, though. He now resides in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico—when he's not visiting Brooklyn.

Connie Soloyanis writes from Athens that she has added chores as new editor of Motion, Olympic Airways' in-flight magazine. She continues to write weekly syndicated column, "An American in Athens."

OPC'er **Louis Weintraub** says he was first appointed to The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped by President Dwight D. Eisenhower. Thought we'd like to know he'll continue for another three years, having been reappointed by Ronald Reagan. Now how many years is that in all, Louis?

OPC'er **Dr. Henry A. Singer** has been named as Executive Officer of the American Nobel Anniversary Committee. He organized the 90th Anniversary Memorial to Alfred Nobel and the American Nobel Laureates on December 9th. Some forty Nobel Laureates attended.

All your news that fits

Please keep telling us what you're doing. OPCers' activities make for a better OPC Bulletin. We're trying to keep up with the items you've been sending. We'll admit it's not quite original but our motto is, "All your news that fits."

Our raw copy deadline

Material for the bulletin must be received in the OPC Office by the 14th of the month preceding publication.

Display ads for OPC Bulletin

The OPC Bulletin will accept a limited number of display advertisements. Persons interested should contact the OPC office for our display ad schedule.

Overseas Press Club Bulletin

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Vietnam reunion late returns

Egos live on kind words and we have a couple on our Vietnam Correspondents Reunion coverage.

Al Kaff writes we captured spirit of the night in "best style possible for a monthly" and says The Bulletin never looked better.

Eliot Sharp writes from Morrisville, Pennsylvania, "I was fascinated by the December issue full of Vietnam." He recalls visiting Saigon in '26 and a return visit 42 years later that also took him to Siem Riep—"one of the most rewarding experiences I've had"—but says, "Now it is one of the many countries only a crazy would voluntarily visit."

Clips keep trickling in on the play the reunion got. One on the Chicago contingent from The Chicago Reader quotes Larry Green, Chicago bureau, Los Angeles Times: "It was a wonderful, extraordinary event." But nothing is ever all good. Lest we gloat too much, he gives more praise a bit backhandedly, "The food was awful, the service terrible and none complained."

Also, we didn't see until too late to report last time: David Lamb's fine and ever-so-lengthy piece in the Los Angeles Times or the extraordinary report in No. 1 Shimbun, newsletter of the Foreign Correspondents Club of Japan, by the AP's Richard Pyle.

Agate Advertisements

OPC Bulletin accepts classified ads in what may be best media influentials buy. \$5 minimum for up to three lines, \$1.75 for each line thereafter. 46 characters per line. Check must accompany typed copy submitted to OPC by 14th of month preceding publication.

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